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--(2) Chip designs are becoming more application-specific. In the early days of IC design, device manufacturers would typically produce various "off-the-shelf" chips, which end users would design into their electronic products. Currently, electronic product manufacturers often order custom chip designs to perform specific functions.--

Please replace paragraph 57 on page 11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

b3  
--FIG. 17 illustrates a feasibility assessment result using the methodology shown in FIG. 16.--

Please replace paragraph 74 on page 11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--FIG. 34 illustrates a combination of the features illustrated in FIGS. 32 and 33.--

Please replace paragraph 80 on page 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--FIG. 40 shows a system design using a collaring process such as that illustrated in FIG. 34.--

Please replace the header on page 85, line 1, with the following rewritten header:

b4  
--DFT Rules--

Please replace paragraph 114 on pages 14-15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

b5  
--To overcome the shortcomings of the available art, a novel methodology and implementation for block-based design ("BBD") is disclosed herein. In one or more preferred embodiments as described herein, both programmable and non-programmable circuit components can be utilized in a circuit block. FIG. 1, as will be described in more detail, illustrates a top-level overview of a block-based design process. The other figures provide further details relating to embodiments or implementations of various block-based design processes in accordance with the general framework shown in FIG. 1. FIGS. 74-87, in particular, are described with particular focus on the use of programmable circuitry in the block-based design process.--

In the Drawings

Please replace FIG. 25 of the drawings with the substitute sheet enclosed with this response. Changes to the drawings are highlighted in red.